

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 28, 2005

The regular meeting of the Los Angeles County Commission for Women was held on February 28, 2005 in Room 830, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California.

Vice President Lesser called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m. The following Commissioners were present for roll call:

Vice President Lesser
Commissioner Creary
Commissioner Jernigan
Commissioner Lewis
Commissioner Mummey
Commissioner Rodriguez

Introduction of the audience followed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Commissioner Rodriguez, seconded by Commissioner Creary and duly carried, the Commission approved the minutes of February 14, 2005 with the following corrections indicated in italics:

- Under the heading, "COMMITTEE REPORTS," Older Women's Issues, on page 5, Commissioner Mummey stated that, "the Older Women's group is planning to send letters to *the White House Conference* regarding ..."
- Under the heading, "PURCHASE TICKETS TO CEDARS-SINAI MEDICAL CENTER'S FOURTH ANNUAL WOMEN'S HEALTH CONFERENCE," on page 3, the motion should read, "On motion of *Commissioner Perkins* ~~President Davalos~~, ..."

Commissioner Creary abstained from voting.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

There was no report.

Commissioner Mummey reported that she attended Lila Morgan's memorial service, "Celebration of the Life of Lila Morgan," on February 26, 2005. Commissioners thanked Commissioner Mummey for representing the Commission at the service.

STAFF REPORT

(Commissioner Perkins joined the meeting.)

Khanh Nguyen, Deputy Executive Officer, reported on the meeting with the catering managers, President Davalos and Commissioner Jernigan held at the Millennium

Biltmore Hotel. She stated that the Biltmore was very amiable to honoring the Commission's contract after the boycott has ended. A County Counsel-approved letter was sent to the Biltmore summarizing their discussion.

Staff reported the following:

- The Santa Monica Commission on the Status of Women has a vacancy for a Commissioner. Anyone interested in applying may refer to the website www.santa-monica.org under Boards and Commissions. The deadline was March 1, 2005.
- On March 3-4, 2005, Cedar's Sinai Health Center will hold the 4th Annual Women's Health Conference. President Davalos, Commissioners Creary, Mummey and Rodriguez expressed interest in attending.
- The Los Angeles Commission on the Status of Women will host the Association of California Commissions for Women Quarterly Meeting on March 11, 2005 at Los Angeles City Hall.

PRESENTATION ON FATHER'S HEART HOTLINE: This presentation by John Hill, Senior Deputy of Supervisor's Burkes Office, was postponed to a future meeting.

CONSIDER ALTERNATIVES TO AN AWARDS LUNCHEON IN HONORING OUTSTANDING WOMEN

Commissioner Perkins' motion to have the Commission accept the May 23, 2005 date to honor the awardees was tabled awaiting more information from the Executive Office on planning the luncheon.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Health Committee: Commissioner Creary reported that the next meeting will be held on March 14, 2005 at 9 a.m. to discuss the task force study to enhance MLK Hospital structure. Commissioner Rodriguez distributed materials from the Office of Women's Health Conference related to obesity and its impact on youth.

Domestic Violence Subcommittee: Commissioner Rodriguez reported that the Commission's letter and survey on domestic violence was delivered to County Departments.

Legislative Committee: Commissioner Jernigan reported that February 23, 2005 was the last day to submit bills to the California legislature. Also, she discussed her concerns about human trafficking into Los Angeles which involves prostitution, and a concern about no or low wages for services. She also indicated Assemblywoman Karen Bass will assist her in tracking legislation for women. Commissioner Rodriguez suggested the Commission submit a letter to the Board of Supervisors regarding Assembly Bill 22, which is a comprehensive anti-trafficking bill to protect victims, prosecute traffickers, and prevent human trafficking in California. Staff was requested

to ask someone from Assemblywoman Sally J. Lieber's Office to speak on the bill before the Commission.

Education Subcommittee: Staff announced that the Education Committee would meet on Wednesday, March 30, 2005 at 1:00 p.m.

Media/Public Relations Committee: Commissioner Perkins requested copies of press releases from last year to assist her as Chair of the Media Committee. Commissioner Lewis accepted the position of Vice Chair upon ratification by the President and the Commission. Commissioner Perkins would like to revise the Commission's website.

Older Women's Issues Committee: There was no report.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was none.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Rodriguez attended the Community Partner Meeting hosted by the Office of Women's Health on February 15, 2005; a meeting to discuss the state of domestic violence funding at the Police Academy on February 18, 2005; the ICAN/DV Task Force Meeting on February 23, 2005; the Health Issues Committee Meeting at the California Hospital on February 24, 2005; and the Assembly Select Committee on Human Trafficking Meeting at UCLA on February 25, 2005.

Commissioner Lewis attended the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, CA on February 27, 2005.

Commissioner Creary attended the National Medical Association and Auxiliary Board Meeting at the Hilton in New York on February 11-13, 2005; the 26th Annual Living Legends Awards Ceremony at the Bilbrew Library sponsored by Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke on February 26, 2005. She also announced that former Commissioner Susan Carpenter McMillan married Craig Caldwell on February 19, 2005 in Los Angeles.

(Commissioner Becerra-Jones joined the meeting.)

Commissioner Mummey attended St. Mary's College scholarship fundraiser. State Senator Sheila Kuehl, KCET, and President Davalos were also present.

CONSIDER ALTERNATIVES TO AN AWARDS LUNCHEON IN HONORING OUTSTANDING WOMEN (Continued)

Khanh Nguyen, Deputy Executive Officer, reported on her discussion with Mr. Lee, Manager of the Millennium Biltmore Hotel, who agreed to the postponement of the Annual "Women of the Year" Awards Luncheon to a future date to be determined by the Commission. It was agreed that holding the event at the Biltmore is predicated on the

resolution of the labor dispute, and therefore the Commission will not be held liable if it is unable to host its event at the Hotel in 2005.

On motion of Commissioner Perkins, seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez and duly carried, the Commission accepted the date of May 23, 2005 to honor the selected awardees. Commissioner Mummey abstained from voting.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH/ANNOUNCEMENTS (Continued)

Commissioner Perkins attended the "The Vagina Monologues" starring Iyanla Vanzant on February 26, 2005. The proceeds raised from the event went to the Jenesse Center, Inc.

Commissioner Lesser attended a speaking engagement featuring Astronaut and former Senator John Glenn and she is participating in a heart clinical study sponsored by the Women's Health Research Registry at Cedar Sinai Medical Center. Commissioner Jernigan requested staff to provide her information regarding this registry program.

Commissioner Becerra-Jones announced that Corina Rico, Member of the Education Committee, is planning to obtain her Masters Degree in Public Health at John Hopkins Hospital. In addition, Corina is advocating women to breast feed their children. Commissioner Becerra-Jones is involved in a parent training program at Pacific Palisades High School to help them assist their children in achieving better grades in school.

Commissioner Rodriguez reported that a lawsuit against a domestic violence shelter for women was dismissed in appellate court.

COMMITTEE REPORTS (Continued)

Education Committee: Commissioner Becerra-Jones stated the Education Committee will review County Counsel's opinion on ethnicity, the present scholarship application to ensure a fair evaluation process, statistical information on girls at-risk and will discuss hosting a girls-at-risk workshop this summer.

MATTERS NOT POSTED ON THE AGENDA

Commissioner Jernigan requested staff to invite Assemblywoman Sally J. Lieber to speak on Human Trafficking and Assembly Bill 22. Commissioner Rodriguez suggested that the Commission recommend that the Board of Supervisors support AB22, which concerns human trafficking.

Commissioner Becerra-Jones requested a presentation by American Association of Retired Persons on Social Security Insurance.

Commission Rodriguez spoke to Jessica St. John, Office of Women's Health, about appointments to the Women's Health Policy Council. The WHPC, a working board that reviews programs and activities, is comprised of doctors and nurses who meet quarterly.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:53 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

COMMISSIONERS

Charlotte Lesser, Vice President
Yolanda Becerra-Jones
Ruth Creary, PhD
Ruth Jernigan
Janet Mummey, Esq.
Bonnie Lewis
Barbara Perkins
Olivia Rodriguez

EXCUSED

Karin Davalos, President
Reiko Duba, Treasurer
Wadie Gravely

COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

Executive Office Staff: Khanh Nguyen, Steve Erickson, Nyla Jefferson,
Gabriel Alexander.
Angel Triola, Affirmative Action Compliance Office